

Message Text

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PAGE 01 WARSAW 09012 180908Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01
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R 180649Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5626
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 9012

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, PL
SUBJECT: RETRIAL OF RADOM DEMONSTRATORS

1. A RETRIAL OF SIX RADAOM WORKERS CONVICTED FOR THEIR PARTS
IN THE JUNE 25 DEMONSTRATIONS WAS HELD DECEMBER 11 BECAUSE OF
"INACCURACIES DISCOVERED IN LEGAL PROCEDURES IN LAST JULY'S
TRIAL." FOUR MEN RECEIVED REDUCED SENTENCES: TADEUSZ MITAK,
FROM EIGHT TO SIX YEARS; WOJCIECH MITAK, FROM SIX TO FOUR
AND A HALF YEARS; STANISLAW GORKA, FROM FIVE TO TWO YEARS.
HENRYK BEDNARCZYK WAS RELEASED PENDING RETRIAL IN RADOM. THE
COURT UPHELD THE TEN YEAR SENTENCE OF ZYGMUNT ZABOROWSKI
AND THE NINE YEAR SENTENCE OF RYSZARD GRUDZIEN.

2. ON DECEMBER 16, POLISH CORRESPONDENT CHARACTERIZED THE
EIGHT-HOUR TRIAL AS "FASCINATING" TO AN EMBASSY OFFICER.
IN A DEPARTURE FROM PREVIOUS PRACTICE, HE SAID, THE POLISH
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PAGE 02 WARSAW 09012 180908Z

NEWS AGENCY SENT REUTERS AND DPA CORRESPONDENTS PASSES FOR
THE TRIAL. SPECTATORS WERE FREELY ADMITTED TO THE COURTROOM,
INCLUDING WORKERS' DEFENSE LEAGUE MEMBER HALINA MIKOLAJSKA.
THE NEWSMAN WAS PARTICULARLY IMPRESSED BY THE DEFENSE'S
ASSERTIONS OF POLICH BRUTALITY AND ITS ARGUMENT THAT POLICE
TESTIMONY DID NOT CONSTITUTE SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE. THE CORRES-

PONDENT SAID ANOTHER APPEAL TRIAL WOULD BE HELD "IN ABOUT TWO WEEKS."

3. COMMENT: THE RESUMPTION OF RETRIALS IN A RELATIVELY OPEN ATMOSPHERE TAKES PLACE AGAINST THE BACKDROP OF CONTINUED HEAVY WESTERN MEDIA INTEREST IN WHAT HAPPENED AT RADOM ON JUNE 25 AND IN THE SUBSEQUENT POLICE HANDLING OF THOSE ARRESTED OR DETAINED. END COMMENT.
BROWN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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